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United States Department of Agriculture

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JANUARY 26, 1904.

DEAR SIR:

For many years the Biological Survey has been collecting data on the migration of birds, for the purpose of ascertaining the spring and fall routes and winter distribution of various species. During the coming spring it is desired to make a special study of five birds which, in going to their summer homes in the northwestern United States and the British provinces, appear to take an unusual route. These are the—

> Nighthawk (Chordeiles virginianus). Catbird (Galeoscoptes carolinensis). Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus). Red-eyed Vireo (Vireo olivaceus). Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla).

We shall be obliged if you will aid us by noting on the accompanying schedule the dates of appearance of any or all of these birds next spring. We shall be glad to send additional circulars and schedules to any persons you may suggest as likely to be willing to aid in this inquiry.

> C. Hart Merriam, Chief, Biological Survey.

Approved:

JAMES WILSON,

Secretary of Agriculture.

